



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

ICE ARRESTS PREDATOR IN WESTERN PUERTO RICO

Pictures seized revealed adult committing lascivious acts against a minor

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico—Harold Ortiz-Graulau, a 39-year-old resident of Sabana Grande was arrested here today by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) special agents for his alleged possession of material containing child pornography in violation of Title 18, United States Code 2252.

ICE agents in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico received information from the Puerto Rico Police Department (PRPD) indicating that Ortiz-Graulau had, allegedly, attempted to develop photographs containing child pornography in a local department store.

An examination of the photographs, allegedly taken by Ortiz-Graulau, revealed an adult committing lascivious acts against a minor.

"There is nothing more important to ICE than protecting our children," said Lydia St. John-Mellado, acting special agent-in-charge of ICE in Puerto Rico. "We will continue to use all our resources to bring these unscrupulous predators to justice. The exploitation of our children, the most vulnerable segment of society, is despicable and we will do our utmost to find, investigate, and prosecute those who engage in it."

Ortiz-Graulau is in U.S. Marshals custody and will be transferred to the Metropolitan Detention Center in Guaynabo, PR.

His arrest is part of a nationwide initiative known as Operation Predator. Operation Predator protects our children from sexual predators, including those who travel across continents to have sex with minors. Internet child pornographers and criminal alien sex offenders and child traffickers are also a priority for ICE. Since the initiative was launched in July of 2003, there have been more than 5,750 individuals arrested nationwide.

ICE encourages anyone who wants to report suspicious activity of suspected child predators and suspicious activity through our toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. Investigators staff this hotline around the clock.

Suspected child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, an Operation Predator partner, at 1-800-843-5678 or <http://www.cybertipline.com>.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.